

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. – 2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 1, further comprising~~ A method comprising:
presenting a user interface in a test system;
receiving user selection through the user interface pertaining to environment
information of a target database system to extract;
receiving, by the test system, the environment information extracted based on the
user selection from the target database system, wherein the test system is separate from the target
database system; and
emulating the target database system in the test system using the received
environment information.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, wherein presenting the user interface comprises presenting plural screens each containing at least a graphical user interface element that is user selectable.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein presenting the screens comprises presenting a screen containing graphical user interface elements selectable by a user to select, for extraction, one of environment information associated with an entire database in the target database system and environment information associated with tables referenced by a query.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, wherein presenting the user interface comprises presenting user-selectable options corresponding to types of environment information to extract from the target database system.

1 7. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 6~~ A method comprising:
2 presenting a user interface in a test system;
3 receiving user selection through the user interface pertaining to environment
4 information of a target database system to extract;
5 receiving, by the test system, the environment information extracted based on the
6 user selection from the target database system, wherein the test system is separate from the target
7 database system;
8 wherein presenting the user interface comprises presenting user-selectable options
9 corresponding to types of environment information to extract from the target database system;
10 and
11 wherein presenting the user-selectable options comprises presenting options
12 corresponding to statistics information and cost parameters.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein presenting the user-selectable options
2 comprises presenting a further option corresponding to data relating to definitions of relations.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein presenting the user-selectable options
2 comprises presenting a further option corresponding to samples associated with access modules.

1 10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, further comprising displaying
2 the environment information in the user interface.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein presenting the user interface
2 comprises providing a user-selectable element that when activated enables editing of the
3 environment information.

1 12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, further comprising storing the
2 received environment information in plural files.

1 13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein presenting the user
2 interface comprises presenting a user-selectable element that when activated causes the files to
3 be combined.

1 14. (Cancelled)

1 15. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim [[14]] 38, wherein the software is
2 executable on the processor to export the environment information from the target database
3 system.

1 16. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim [[14]] 38, wherein the user
2 interface comprises plural screens containing the user-selectable elements.

1 17. (Previously Presented) The first system of claim 16, wherein one of the plural
2 screens contains a first user-selectable element to indicate extraction of environment information
3 associated with a database of the target database system.

1 18. (Previously Presented) The first system of claim 17, wherein another one of the
2 plural screens contains a second user-selectable element to indicate extraction of environment
3 information associated with one or more tables associated with a query in the target database
4 system.

1 19. (Previously Presented) The first system of claim 18, wherein the other one of the
2 plural screens comprises a query selection element to select one or plural queries for which
3 environment information is to be extracted.

1 20. (Previously Presented) The first system of claim 19, wherein the query selection
2 element enables selection of the one or plural queries from a file.

1 21. (Previously Presented) The first system of claim 19, wherein the query selection
2 element enables selection of the one or more plural queries from a query capture database.

1 22. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim ~~[[14]]~~ 38, wherein the user-
2 selectable elements indicate one or more types of the environment information to export.

1 23. (Previously Presented) The first system of claim 22, wherein the one or more
2 types of the environment information comprises one or more of the following: statistics
3 information, cost information, information pertaining to definition of relations, and samples of
4 data demographics of access modules in the target database system.

1 24. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim ~~[[14]]~~ 38, wherein the user-
2 selectable elements comprise an element to enable editing of the environment information.

1 25. (Previously Presented) The first system of claim 24, wherein the user-selectable
2 elements further comprise another element to undo editing of the environment information.

1 26. (Previously Presented) The first system of claim 24, wherein the software is
2 executable to display the environment information in the display.

1 27. (Currently Amended) The first system of claim ~~[[14]]~~ 38, wherein the software is
2 executable to export the environment information from the target database system and
3 subsequently to import the environment information to a test system.

1 28. (Cancelled)

1 29. (Currently Amended) The article of claim ~~28~~ 44, wherein the instructions when
2 executed cause the first system to import the environment information to a test system.

1 30. (Currently Amended) The article of claim ~~28~~ 43, wherein the instructions when
2 executed cause the first system to present the user interface by presenting plural screens having
3 user-selectable elements.

1 31. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 30, wherein the instructions when
2 executed cause the first system to receive activation of the user-selectable elements to select
3 types of environment information to extract.

1 32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein presenting the screens
2 comprises presenting a screen containing graphical user interface elements selectable by a user to
3 select, for extraction, environment information associated with tables referenced by a query.

1 33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, wherein receiving the
2 environment information comprises receiving at least one of the following information: number
3 of nodes in the target database system, number of processors per node, statistics, and random
4 samples pertaining to ~~data~~ demographics of data stored in the target database system.

1 34. (Cancelled)

1 35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[34]]~~ 3, further comprising
2 generating an execution plan for a query based on an emulated database environment created by
3 emulating the target database system.

1 36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, further comprising visually
2 displaying steps of the execution plan in the user interface.

1 37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein the emulated database
2 environment comprises plural storage modules and plural access module processors to access, in
3 parallel, respective storage modules,
4 wherein generating the execution plan comprises generating the execution plan
5 for execution by the plural access module processors.

1 38. (Currently Amended) ~~The first system of claim 14, further comprising~~ A first
2 system comprising:
3 a processor;
4 a display;
5 software executable on the processor to present a user interface in the display,
6 the user interface comprising user-selectable elements to indicate environment
7 information to export from a target database system separate from the first system; and
8 a controller to emulate the target database system based on the environment
9 information, the controller to generate an emulated database environment based on the
10 emulating.

1 39. (Previously Presented) The first system of claim 38, wherein the controller is
2 adapted to generate an execution plan in the emulated database environment.

1 40. (Previously Presented) The first system of claim 39, wherein the controller is
2 adapted to visually display the execution plan in the display.

1 41. (Previously Presented) The first system of claim 40, wherein the controller
2 comprises plural software modules.

1 42. (Currently Amended) ~~The first system of claim 14, further comprising~~ A first
2 system comprising:

3 a processor;
4 a display;
5 software executable on the processor to present a user interface in the display,
6 the user interface comprising user-selectable elements to indicate environment
7 information to export from a target database system separate from the first system; and
8 a controller to provide the environment information to a test system to enable
9 emulation of the target database system by the test system.

1 43. (Currently Amended) ~~The article of claim 28, wherein the instructions when~~
2 ~~executed cause the first system to~~ An article comprising at least one storage medium containing
3 instructions that when executed cause a first system to:

4 present a user interface;
5 receive user selection made in the user interface indicating environment
6 information to extract from a target database system separate from the first system;
7 receive the environment information extracted based on the user selection from
8 the target database system; and
9 emulate the target database system based on the environment information.

1 44. (Currently Amended) ~~The article of claim 28~~ An article comprising at least one
2 storage medium containing instructions that when executed cause a first system to:
3 present a user interface;
4 receive user selection made in the user interface indicating environment
5 information to extract from a target database system separate from the first system;
6 receive the environment information extracted based on the user selection from
7 the target database system; and
8 wherein receiving the environment information comprises receiving at least one
9 of the following information: number of nodes in the target database system, number of
10 processors per node, statistics, and random samples pertaining to ~~data demo~~ graphics
11 demographics of data stored in the target database system.

1 45. (Cancelled)

1 46. (Currently Amended) The article of claim ~~[[45]]~~ 43, wherein the instructions
2 when executed cause the first system to generate an execution plan for a query based on an
3 emulated database environment created by emulating the target database system.

1 47. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 46, wherein the instructions when
2 executed cause the first system to display steps of the execution plan in the user interface.

1 48. (Cancelled)